

# ***DISTRICT V ADVISORY BOARD***

**Minutes - March 6, 2000**

The District V Advisory Board meeting was held at 7 p.m. in the *Sedgwick Room*, Sedgwick County Education Extension Center, Ridge and 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

## **Members Present**

David Almes  
Bob Bulman  
Sean Cash  
David Dennis  
Mo Ediger  
Fran Hoggatt  
Andy Johnson  
Vince Miller  
Texanita Randle  
Bob Sorenson

## **Members Absent**

Margarita LaFarelle Hunt

## **Guests**

None

**Councilmember Bob Martz** began the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The agenda was reviewed.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

No items were submitted.

## **BOARD AGENDA**

### **1. Proposed District Advisory Board By-Laws**

Councilmember Martz asked the Board Members to review the draft of the By-Laws and provide any comments or concerns to him in order to consider any changes previous to the formal adoption by the City Council.

### **2. District Advisory Board Orientation**

Councilmember Martz reminded the Board Members about the Orientation scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2000 and talked briefly about the topics for the day. He then discussed the Mini-City Halls including the long-range goal of providing certain services in the neighborhoods to improve access for the citizens. Councilmember Martz explained that originally the Auburn Hills Clubhouse was intended for the District V site but it's plans do not include adequate space for public meetings and offices.

**3. Cowskin Creek Basin/ Schedule for related Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)**

Councilmember Martz provided handouts of the CIP schedule planned to address the flooding issues of the Cowskin Creek Basin. He reported that Professional Engineer's Corporation (PEC) was hired by the City to study the area of flooding to identify contributing factors and propose a plan for remediation.

**a. Basin Master Plan**

The Master Plan study was initiated in February and is expected to be completed by April, 2001. Construction for improvements is being planned to move in the direction of south to north.

One major factor identified to date is debris build-up. PEC reported that the build-up caused the Cowskin Creek to rise two-three feet, a major impact in the flooding of the Dell Subdivision. and the backing up effect due to the large volume of water trying to pass through the small waterway channel at Kellogg.

**b. Central Kansas Railway Bridge Removal**

Councilmember Martz reported that the railroad bridge removal project at the Cowskin Creek has a projected completion date of May, 2001.

**c. Channel Improvement**

Overall design will be developed by February, 2001 with work currently in progress. Construction of improvements will begin with the Kellogg to Maple area in June, 2001 and proceed to the Maize to Central area in January, 2002.

The City has taken action on two incidents related to the flooding. One is information indicating that the floodgates in the Dell were at one time manually opened by certain residents. However, the residents who accepted this responsibility are no longer living and no other residents have taken on the task. The City is researching the possibility of an automatic-opening system for the floodgates. Another incident was the discovery of a privately built, illegal barrier in the floodway in the Hidden Lakes subdivision. The barrier has been removed by the property owner.

**d. Dry Creek Overflow**

Another factor identified in the flooding was the additional flow into the Cowskin that resulted from the breeching of Dry Creek during the major storms. Design development is currently being studied and construction completion is expected by August, 2003.

Several options might be utilized for flooding prevention including detention ponds, diversion through the Big Slough in Sedgwick County Park, and others.

Board Members asked about strategies for preventing the northwest sewer plant from flooding. Councilman Martz stated that a detention system will be in place in which alarms will be used with the first alarm notifying the Emergency Management System and the second alarm automatically closing the gates to hold the affluent for up to three days of overflow.

**4. Northwest Wichita Traffic Congestion Relief Study/Major Investment Study**

Councilmember Martz explained that a city-county steering committee had been formed to direct a study update for the 1995 Major Investment Study (MIS) to recommend a trafficway across the 235-Bypass and Wichita-Valley Center Floodway ("Big Ditch"). The Steering Committee has recommended that a task force be formed to facilitate the process including representatives of the Wichita City Council, Sedgwick County Commission, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, Kansas Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and District Advisory Boards. The purpose of the study is to develop solutions to resolve the traffic congestion problem on Zoo Boulevard between Windmill Road and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and on Central Avenue between Wichita-Valley Center Floodway and West Street. The congestion has increased even more than originally expected due to continued growth on the west side with more than 70,000 people currently residing west of the Big Ditch.

Councilmember Martz provided handouts regarding the study and asked that Board Members consider whether they would be willing to serve on this task force that will meet through October, 2000.

**5. Northwest Sewer Plant**

Councilmember Martz reported on the plant to be sited at 135<sup>th</sup> Street West and 37<sup>th</sup> Street North. The plans for the plant include several special features in a nature-type setting with park amenities such as trails and bike paths.

**6. Federal Emergency Management Agency Buyouts**

Councilmember Martz reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced this week their proposal for nineteen (19) buyouts from the flood on October 31, 1998. In order to accept the buyout, homeowners must have 50% or more damage and agree to accept 85% of the market value of the property. Most of the eligible housing is in the area of Wetmore Drive. The City would maintain ownership and could not rebuild on the property.

The Board Members were asked to consider future options for the City's use of these properties. One immediate suggestion was park space.

**7. Appointments to Committees**

Councilmember Martz stated that several committees and work groups including review of the Comprehensive Plan, naming of the pocket park on Douglas, the Northwest Traffic Study Update, and others. He asked members to be thinking about their interests

and willingness to serve. In addition, he told the Board that he is very open to DAB-generated ideas for solutions to existing issues and encourages everyone to make suggestions.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at **9:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Brown,  
Neighborhood Assistant, District V